

## **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

## **Listing of Claims**

1-34. Canceled.

35 (Original). A method for preventing a transmission unit from forwarding a transmit signal that may result in a DC flow condition, comprising:

monitoring a data signal;

generating a first signal in response to a data signal condition;

monitoring a clock signal; and

generating a second signal in response to clock signal condition.

36 (Original). The method of claim 35, wherein the data signal is provided by a delta-sigma modulator.

37 (Original). The method of claim 35, wherein the step of monitoring a data signal is performed with a digital comparator.

38 (Original). The method of claim 35, wherein the first signal is a power down signal.

39 (Original). The method of claim 38, wherein the power down signal is generated in response to a data signal having an unchanging value.

40 (Original). The method of claim 39, wherein the power down signal is generated by an asynchronous counter that reaches a maximum value.

41 (Original). The method of claim 35, wherein the second signal is a reset signal.

42 (Original). The method of claim 41, wherein the reset signal is generated in response to a clock signal having a frequency that fails to exceed a predetermined minimum value.

43 (Original). The method of claim 42, wherein the reset signal is generated by a monostable circuit.